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Agenda item 21 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Netherlands, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United State of America and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1089 (1996) of 13 December 1996 and 1099 (1997) of 14 March 1997, and the statement by the President of the Security Council of 7 February 1997,[1] in which the Council expressed its deep concern over the worsening of the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan,

Recalling also the statement by the President of the Security Council of 12 March 1997[2] concerning the security and safety of United Nations and other international personnel associated with United Nations operations, as well as personnel of international humanitarian organizations,

[1] S/PRST/1997/6.

[2] S/PRST/1997/13.

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General of 5 December 1996 and of 5 March 1997 on the situation in Tajikistan,[3]

Supporting the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, aimed at achieving a comprehensive political settlement in the inter-Tajik talks, and those of the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan,

Welcoming the recent agreements reached between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition,[4] in particular those signed in Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran, and Moscow, aimed at achieving national reconciliation, and urging the parties to continue their efforts to solve the conflict peacefully,

Deeply concerned at the impact of the conflict on the humanitarian situation and on the social and economic infrastructure of Tajikistan, and aware that the sharp decline in the provision of social, health and education services, lack of heating fuel for hospitals, schools and homes and the sharp drop in the real income of most families have made it increasingly difficult for large sections of the population in Tajikistan to meet their basic needs,

Deploring the deterioration in the security situation, which necessitated the suspension of United Nations humanitarian activities in Tajikistan and has prevented the Organization from implementing fully the measures it had undertaken to ensure the coherent delivery of humanitarian assistance, in particular through the strengthening of coordination structures in Tajikistan,

Stressing the importance of ensuring the voluntary return, in safety and dignity, of all refugees and internally displaced persons to their places of permanent residence and of reintegrating them into the social and economic life of the country,

Deeply concerned about the danger posed by landmines in Tajikistan,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and achieving national reconciliation in Tajikistan and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy,

Affirming the urgent need to assist Tajikistan in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

Expressing its appreciation to the States, United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan,

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[3] S/1996/1010 and S/1997/198.

[4] S/1996/1070, annexes; S/1997/56, annexes; and S/1997/169, annexes.

1. Encourages the efforts aimed at achieving national reconciliation in Tajikistan, and calls upon the parties to comply fully with all obligations they have assumed towards this goal, in particular to respect the ceasefire agreement;

2. Welcomes with appreciation the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country;

3. Encourages Member States and others concerned to respond further both promptly and generously to the consolidated inter-agency donor alert on urgent humanitarian needs for the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 May 1997 launched by the Secretary-General;

4. Encourages States to contribute to the voluntary fund established by the Secretary-General in accordance with Security Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 december 1994 in support of the implementation of the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, signed at Tehran on 17 September 1994,[5]

5. Condemns terrorist acts and other acts of violence in Tajikistan, and calls upon the parties to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and other international humanitarian personnel;

6. Encourages the parties to cooperate in order to reduce the threat from the indiscriminate use of landmines to the civil population of Tajikistan and to those providing humanitarian assistance, and welcomes in this regard the proposal to create a mine action centre in Tajikistan;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

8. Decides to consider at its fifty-second session the question of the situation of Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

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[5] S/1994/1102, annex 1.